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HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

The 21st April 2008

S.R.O.No.187/2008—Whereas it has been brought to the notice of the State Government that Sri A.K Patel, Vice Chairperson of Brajarajnagar Municipality while acting as the Chairperson, has acted in gross violation of the provisions of the Orissa Municipal Act, 1950 and the rules made there under;

And whereas, during his incumbency as incharge Chairperson of Brajarajnagar Municipality it is observed that, the quotation for supply of wheel borrow was called for vide office Notice dated the 25th November, 2005 and after verification of sample, order was placed for supply of 75 numbers of wheel borrow @ Rs.3745/- + taxes of 10% of value. This order was placed with one M/s. Maysun Engineering Calcutta, (W.B.) and a sum of Rs.3,08,962.50 (Rupees Three lakhs eight thousand nine hundred sixty two and paise fifty only) has been paid to the party on dated the 9th March, 2006. Those wheel borrows were of substandard quality as those have not lasted. Further it is noticed that towards repair of 12 numbers of wheel borrows a sum of Rs.28,350/- (Rupees twenty Eight thousand three hundred fifty) only has also been paid to another party namely M/s Biswakarma Engineering Works, Gandhichowk on dated the 23rd February, 2006 and thus the rate of repair comes around Rs.2, 362.50 per wheel borrow. Such action of the Vice-chairperson violates the rule 355 (1) (a) of Orissa Municipal Rules, 1953;

And whereas, Bamboo sticks for its use in drain brush have been purchased at higher price @ Rs.530/- + 4% Tax per dozen though in the Local market it is available @ Rs.150/- per dozen. That apart low quality of Belcha, Fouda, kanta Fouda, Gainty etc. were procured during his incumbency but the papers available in the file indicates that the material is to be of TATA make which is in violation of the order;

And whereas, the office Telephone bearing No.240945 was installed in the residence of Sri A.K Patel and bills in respect of this particular phone have been paid from the Municipal Fund @ 1950/- per month. However in Council Resolution No.11 dated the 12th September, 2006 decision for its disconnection was taken and eventually the phone was disconnected. The total payment for the period from December 2005 to July-2006 comes around Rs.14, 652 which is indeed an irregular expenditure. Thus, such action violates the Government instruction issued by the Government vide letter No.20900 dated the 30th June, 2000;

And whereas, it is a fact that privatization of conservancy work in seven wards in the Brajarajnagar Municipality was done since December, 2004 without adopting any tender procedure. This work was awarded to an Non Governmental Organisation named BISWA (Bharat Integrated Social Welfare Agency) Sambalpur provisionally for 3 months and then it has been extended till 31st July, 2005. Soon after execution of the work by the BISWA, complaints were received from several councilors as well as general public about the deficiency in providing services. Several meetings were held in this regard, with office bearer of the BISWA, Councilors and officials but no improvement was noticed. Thereafter tender procedure was adopted. It reveals from the concerned file that a sum of Rs.2,60,000/- was held up for non performance of sanitation work but the said amount was released on dated the 29th December, 2005 by Sri A.K. Patel while functioning as in charge Chairperson with a deduction of Rs.6,225/- (Rupees Six Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-Five) only. Thus such action violates Rule 355(1) (a) of the Orissa Municipal Rules, 1953;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the power conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 53 of the Orissa Municipal Act, 1950 (Orissa Act 23 of 1950), the State Government do hereby direct the Collector and District Magistrate, Jharsuguda to enquire into the aforesaid allegations and furnish his report to this Department.

[No.11905-Spl.MI-04/08/HUD.]

By order of the Governor

R.R MALLICK

Director, Municipal Administration and
Ex-Officio Additional Secretary to Government